

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract to read as follows:

A ~~Disclosed is a~~ permanently fireproof flame guard includes ~~comprising~~ a flow area (2) which terminates a conduit and within which an inserted flame shield is disposed. ~~The, said~~ flame shield is being provided with a plurality of passage gaps that ensure permanent fire safety. Cooling of the ~~said~~ permanently fireproof flame guard can be improved by forming at least one concentric, annular section (5) within the flow area (2) in a massive manner without passage gaps while forming annular sections (4) comprising passage gaps around the ~~said~~ concentric, annular section (5).